

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| First Named Inventor | : Victor Morozov | | |
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| Art Unit | : 1641 | | |
| Examiner | : Jung, Unsu | | |

Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTAL RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Examiner,

This response is a reply to the Supplemental Restriction Requirement dated March 19, 2008, having a shortened statutory period that expires on April 19, 2008.

With respect to **Election/Restrictions**, Applicants hereby elect with traverse the following species to be examined: "A", which is drawn to "analyte bound to a particle" of claim 6.

The claims encompassing the elected species are claims 6, 7, 12, and 13. Claims 7 and 12 are dependent on claim 6. Claim 13 is dependent on claim 12. It should be noted that claim 6 is dependent on independent claim 1.

The limitations of claim 6 in the application involve related, overlapping subject matter, namely analyte binding. The specification provides examples of various kinds of particles that can be used. See e.g., Specification, para. [0069]-[0072]. The specification also provides examples of analytes forming a portion of natural complexes. See id. at para. [0080]. Whether the binding takes place with an artificial or natural substance, the main point to take away is that

the present invention teaches the analyte being bound to some composition. Hence, it may be possible for the search to be directed towards the overall analyte binding as opposed to a specific type of bound composition. If this possibility is the case, perhaps a search may be carried out without an undue burden on the examiner. "If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions." See MPEP § 803.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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